

# City Source

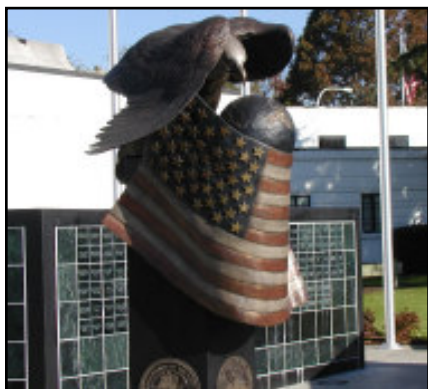
RENTON, THE CENTER OF OPPORTUNITY



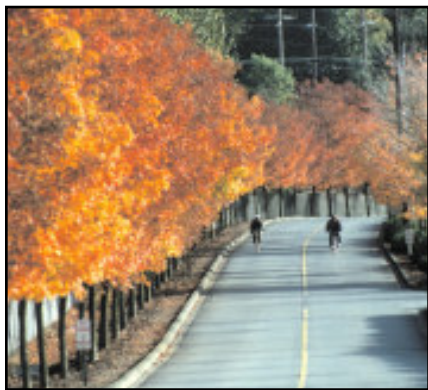
## PICTURE RENTON



Tree Lighting



Veteran's Memorial



Coulon Park bikers



Fire Station 12

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### New Video Touts Renton as "Center of Opportunity"

The Renton Community Marketing Campaign unveiled its new DVD, "The Center of Opportunity," which features a variety of community members talking about Renton as a great place to do business, live and raise a family, visit and come to work. In addition to its availability on the city's website, DVD copies of the video will be made available from the city's Department of Economic Development, Neighborhoods & Strategic Planning. Call 425.430.6580 to request copies.

### Conner Homes Breaks Ground on Barbee Mill Lakefront Community

Mayor Kathy Keolker and other dignitaries were present at Barbee Mill Lakefront Community groundbreaking on Oct. 12. This 22-acre property was once home to the Barbee Mill Lumber Company. When complete, Barbee Mill will include 114 multi-story paired homes. Conner estimates the homes will sell for between \$800,000 and \$3 million.

### Renton Utility Customers can now Pay Bills Electronically

Now there are two ways to pay utility bills electronically: Interactive Voice Response system and online payment. Customers can go to [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov), click on "utility bill payments," and follow easy directions to pay electronically.

### Puget Sound Regional Council funds Renton's transportation projects

The PSRC has selected key transportation projects in Renton to receive funding in 2007. The Sam Chastain Waterfront Trail and the SW 27<sup>th</sup> St./Strander Boulevard project, will receive \$4.6 million and \$900,000 of federal funds. To learn more, visit [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov).

## MOVING RENTON FORWARD



**Budget focuses on basic services, public safety, economic growth & community resources**

Mayor Kathy Keolker delivered her 2007 proposed budget to the Renton City Council on Monday, October 23, 2006.

"This is a time to focus on the city's core responsibilities – such as police, emergency preparedness, utilities, parks and libraries – and doing those things well," said Mayor Keolker. "This is a time to move Renton forward and encourage economic development, neighborhood revitalization and take care of those less fortunate."

One of the largest budgets in recent years for capital improvement projects, it includes significant projects for transportation, parks and trails, the airport and utilities.

#### **Highlights of the proposed budget include:**

**Increased Costs:** About 11% of the increase to the city's operating budget is due to mandatory cost increases, including increases in the State's retirement system, higher energy costs and increases in the cost of the emergency communication system.

**Additional Staff Resources:** Adding six public safety employees – four in the police department and two in our Fire Department. The budget also recommends adding 12 employees in other areas of the city, for a total increase of 18 employees.

**Public Safety:** Investing in various public safety programs such as enforcement of disabled parking spaces, off-duty police officers for community security, improving safety in intersections with automated traffic light enforcement cameras and a focus on downtown safety.

**Community:** Expanding the aquatics program and additional funding of \$157,000 to meet the city's human service needs.

**Capital Projects:** For a total of almost \$62 million, an impressive list of capital projects focusing on transportation, the airport, parks and facilities, and utilities.

"Over the years, we had to make difficult decisions regarding the investments necessary to help turn Renton around," said Mayor Keolker. "While we are fortunate to be in the midst of a healthy economy, we have to make budget decisions to leverage our fiscal responsibility and to secure a future of growth and opportunity."

To view or read the mayor's budget message and for more

[www.rentonwa.gov](http://www.rentonwa.gov)

**RENTON**  
AHEAD OF THE CURVE

# City Source

RENTON, THE CENTER OF OPPORTUNITY



## Economic Forecast for Renton Exceeds that of King County in Many Areas

Rapid growth at Boeing is expected to lift total Renton employment by more than 8% this year. National statistics indicate a relatively steady overall job growth.

Puget Sound should see an estimated 14,700 new aerospace jobs, an 8.4% annual growth rate. The 4.2% employment growth rate predicted for Renton between 2005 and 2008 is 1.5 times the expected King County rate.

There are 1,449 unfilled 737 orders amounting to four and a half years of production at current delivery rates. Delivery rates will match the output of the Renton plant in the late 1990s. Boeing employment in Renton is expected to jump by more than 20% this year, following a 4% gain last year. 2007 should see a 3.1% increase, and employment will remain steady in 2008.

Outside of Boeing, employment

is expected to grow 3.3% this year and about 2.5% per year 2007-2008. The total employment indicates an 8.6% growth rate this year and additional growth of 2.7% in 2007 and 1.5% in 2008.

The city's population growth rate will average more than twice the county pace. Home sales are also expected to regain upward momentum in 2008.

Renton's expected increase in total taxable retail sales, currently at 9.5%, will outstrip King County's over the next few years. In 2005, Renton's rose 5.3% and is projected to increase 9.4% this year, 7.5% in 2007, and 5.5% in 2008.

### Comparison of Key Economic Indicators Average Annual Percent Change 2005-2008

	Renton	King Co.
Employment	4.2%	2.8%
Population	2.8%	1.2%
Taxable retail sales	7.5%	6.1%

## OUT IN THE COMMUNITY

### Friday, December 1, 6:30 pm Ivar's Clam Lights Opening Night.

Coulon Park. Through January 1. Free.

**Saturday, December 2, 5 pm Holiday Tree Lighting.** Piazza. Music, refreshments, and Santa. Admission: Free. More information: Pat at 425-917-0173.

**Sunday, December 3, 8 am** registration, **9am** start time, **Canine Candy Cane 5K Fun Run and Walk.** Renton Community Center. Information: 425-430-6700. **6 pm Argosy Christmas Ship** featuring Northwest Boychoir. Coulon Beach Park.

**Thursday, December 7, 7:30 pm, Renton City Concert Band.** Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center. Information: 425-430-6700.

**Saturday, December 9, 11 am The Real Toy Story: Folk Toys and Whistles from Around the World.** History Museum. Free with museum admission.

**Monday, Decmber 11, 7 pm, Holiday Bi-lingual Storytime.** Downtown Renton Public Library. Information: 425-430-6610

**Friday, December 15, 4 pm, Seniors' Jingle Bell Romp Dance.** Senior Activity Center. Tickets required by 12/13: \$6. Information: 435-430-6633. **7 pm, S.T.A.R. (Special Theatre Arts in Renton) presenting Monkey Business: Going Bananas.** Information: 425-430-6700.

**Saturday, December 16, 3 pm, Renton Youth Symphony Orchestra Holiday Concert.** Carco Theatre. Tickets: \$5, \$7. Information: 425-430-6700. **7 pm, S.T.A.R. (Special Theatre Arts in Renton) presenting Monkey Business: Going Bananas.** Information: 425-430-6700.

## When Should You Consider Flood Insurance?

Urban flooding occurs when the storm sewers become overwhelmed or plugged. If your home is not on higher ground or is lower than the curb in your street, the City of Renton recommends purchasing flood insurance.

Flooding is a force of nature that frequently cannot be controlled or prevented. The reality is that floods are going to occur time and again. If you live near the Cedar River, Green River, May creek, or Springbrook Creek, you may live in a special flood hazard area, which is usually defined as the 100-year flood plain. The 100-year flood plain is a zone where the chance of encountering natural flooding in any given year is at least 1%. Major floods occurred in 1990, 1995, and 1996.

You may obtain maps of the special flood hazard areas in Renton at Renton City Hall, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, or visit [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov) and type in the search words "flood hazard." Look for the document called "Critical Areas Ordinance Regulations."

Renton participates in the



Flood, November 2006

Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). This enables every Renton citizen to obtain flood insurance discounts of up to 15%. Please note that flood losses are *not* covered under homeowners' insurance policies.

To find out if your house is in a flood prone area, obtain a Flood Insurance Rate Map, or to obtain copies of existing Flood Elevation Certificates, please call Gary Fink, Surface Water Utility at (425) 430-7392 or email [gfink@ci.renton.wa.us](mailto:gfink@ci.renton.wa.us). Flood Insurance Rate Maps and FEMA publications on flood-related subjects and flood insurance are

available at the Renton Library main branch. For more information on floods, check the Federal Emergency Management Agency's website on floods, flood mitigation, and what you need to know about Federal Disaster Assistance and Federal Flood Insurance at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov). Or visit [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov).

## CITY CONTACTS

Mayor ..... 430-6500

City Council ..... 430-6501

Municipal Court Judge  
..... 430-6550

Chief Administrative Officer  
..... 430-6500

Community Services  
..... 430-6600

Planning/Building/Public  
Works ..... 430-7200

Economic Development,  
Neighborhoods, &  
Strategic Planning  
..... 430-6575

Code Enforcement 430-7373

Administrative, Judicial,  
Legal Services .. 430-6500

Emergencies ..... 911

Police ..... 430-7500  
or [epolice.rentonwa.gov](http://epolice.rentonwa.gov)

Fire ..... 430-7000

Human Resources & Risk  
Management ..... 430-7650

Finance & Information  
Services ..... 430-6850

[www.rentonwa.gov](http://www.rentonwa.gov)